Resource mobilisation by Government

4572. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the additional resource mobilisation through (i) Central Budget (ii) Railway Budget (iii) hike in postal and telecommunication rates and (iv) Administered Prices during the Seventh Plan and during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) whether it is a fact that the steps increase in additional resource mobilisation during 1990-91 to 1992-93, as compared to the Seventh Plan, has made the economy a high cost economy; and

(c) what steps were taken or are proposed to be taken to increase internal resource generation by increased productivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) The information is being collected.

(b) The increases in the administered prices were necessary because these had not kept pace with rising costs and were leading to unacceptable losses in Public Sector Undertakings. The impact of additional resource mobilisation on the economy depends on whether the deflationary measures such as increased collections under Corporation tax and reduction in import duties can counter the inflationary pressure caused by rise in indirect taxes. The measures taken in the Budget for 1991-92 and 1992-93 are intended to dampen inflation.

(c) Government attaches great importance to increasing internal resource generation. Budget for 1992-93 assumes that internal resource generation by public enterprises for financing their plans will grow to Rs. 15084 crores, against Rs. 12007 crores in Revised Estimates 1991-92. It is expected that dividends and profits generated by the Central Government public sector undertakings will increase from Rs. 1049 crores in 1991-92 (RE) to Rs. 2622 crores in 1992-93 (BE). Several measures are envisaged during the 8th Plan period towards attaining this objective. These include better financial management of public sector enterprise; improvement in capacity utilisation to bring down incremental capital output ratios; speedier completion of projects.

Import of machinery by Government's Opium Refinery Unit in Madhya Pradesh

4573. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Opium Refining Unit of Central Excise and Customs Department in Madhya Pradesh had imported some equipment and machinery, recently;

(b) if so, when the same was imported, indicating the value thereof and also whether the same have been installed or are still lying unused;

(c) whether any inquiry by an independent Inquiry Committee with regard to malfunctioning of the Opium Refining Unit was taken place or has been ordered, so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) In order to improve recoveries of various alkaloids from opium, the Government Opium & Alkaloid Works Undertaking, Neemuch (M.P.) imported five equipments worth Rs. 57.55 lakhs during the year 1985. Of these, one equipment, namely High performance Liquid Chromatograph is being used. Trials on two equipments, namely, Centrifugal Clarifier and Centrifugal Decanter did not prove successful. Trials on Pulsed Extraction Columns are being carried out under the technical advice and supervision of the National Chemical laboratory, Pune who are process Consultants for the project. The fifth equipment, viz., Thin Film Evaporator will be installed after successful trials on Pulsed Extraction Columns.

(c) and (d) No Sir, since there has been no malfunctioning of the alkaloid plant of Government Opium & Alkaloid Works Undertaking, Neemuch.